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 CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY 12 20 PM 1949 REPORT

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SOURCE Politika.SCHEDULED RECLAMATION WORK COMPLETED

## CROATIAN RECLAMATION SUCCESSFUL -- Politika, No 13280, 3 Jul 49

All the Croatian reclamation projects scheduled for the first half of 1949 have been completed successfully. These projects include the reclamation of Jelas, Lonja, and Sinj polje and minor projects.

In Jelas Polje a drainage and irrigation system was completed. Twelve thousand volunteers from the People's Front of various Slavonian srez and 1,400 from Zagreb took part in the work. The system of canals and embankments had been completed by the beginning of the spring sowing, permitting the planting of crops never before grown in this region. The irrigation system made it possible to plant rice on 600 hectares this spring, and hemp and vegetables could be planted on the vast collective farm established on Jelas Polje.

The reclamation of Jelas Polje will be completed during the second half of 1949. A network of internal canals will be built to permit the intensive cultivation of 20,000 hectares of land previously unused or abandoned.

The draining of the main section of Lonja Polje, which contains more than 100,000 hectares of farm land, is well under way. By the end of 1949, part of the swamp will be ready for cultivation.

An embankment will be built to protect the drained area from being flooded by the Lonja River, and extensive earthwork will be done on the Stara Gradiska-Dugo Selo Canal.

Excavators and bulldozers operated by volunteers from the People's Front have reclaimed new land for cultivation in Sinj Polje. The reclamation of the Sinj and the Vrana Polje and of the Neretva Swamp will drain over 7,000 hectares of land now under water, where vegetables and industrial plants will be grown.

- 1 -

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Smaller reclamation projects now in progress include Crnac Polje, where youth are building a 20-kilometer canal in connection with the construction of the Brotherhood and Unity Highway, and Bidj Polje, where a canal is being cut and work has begun on the regulation of certain parts of the Sava, Drava, Mura, and Rijecina rivers.

**RECLAMATION AT LAKE SKADAR TO BEGIN SOON -- Politika, No 13277, 30 Jun 49**

The Federal Planning Commission has decreed that work on the Lake Skadar reclamation project shall begin on 1 August 1949.

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- 2 -

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